

also, to strive either to throw another down, or trip up his heels. Such proceedings always produce ill-will, quarrelling, and sometimes fighting: but every young gentleman will wish to make his companion as happy as himself, since, without mutual harmony, the finest sport in the world will be rendered dull, insipid, and disgustful.

C H A P. XII.

A Dissertation on Marbles.

Marbles may be divided into three species or kinds. 1. The marble, commonly so called, and that sort which is most generally used. 2. The alley, which is made of alabaster, and looks exceedingly neat and pretty; the value of which is proportioned to the variety of its colours: however, this is not so much in use as the common marble, it being much dearer, and more liable to break. 3. The
baunce,

baunce, which is distinguished by that name only on account of its size, being a great deal larger than what we call marbles.

It is not here my intent to particularize every game which marbles afford us, as such an attempt would be endless, as well as useless and unnecessary. I shall therefore only mention such as are not generally known, or such as, though commonly played at, are not properly attended to in every point.

The most common of all games at marbles is *nigs*, which some young artists very improperly call *lag-out*; for these are two different games, as I will now make appear, and I hope beyond all possibility of contradiction.

There is nothing more in the game of *nigs*, than gently striking a marble against a wall, or any other solid body, and letting the marble run out, but to no great distance. When one boy has sent out his marble, the other, who is at play with him, does the same, and endeavours to send his marble out in such a direction as may give him hopes of hitting that of his play-
mate

K